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Classroom Trailers to Roll to Hurricane Region

When the Falls Church City School Board heard how badly the West Baton Rouge Parish Public Schools needed classroom space, it authorized the superintendent to donate surplus trailers to the Louisiana school district. For the next three days, a contractor will dismantle the trailers and prepare them to be shipped to West Baton Rouge, where enrollment increased by 500 students displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

JAB Construction, Inc. of Lexington Park Maryland is preparing the portable classrooms located at George Mason High School to be loaded onto six tractor-trailer trucks. Crews will be working from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from now until Monday to install the 30 axles and 60 tires needed to safely transport the 50-tons of cargo. The trucks are expected to roll out sometime Tuesday morning and are expected to reach West Baton Rouge by Thursday afternoon. George Mason High School is located at 7124 Leesburg Pike in Falls Church.

When the West Baton Rouge schools receive the trailers, they'll find inside "Boxes of Love." The boxes are filled with donated personal hygiene products collected during a recent Falls Church community drive sponsored by the PTA. Thomas Jefferson Elementary School students decorated the boxes and included a note in each one, which reads:

*To our friends in West Baton Rouge, LA
A box of love from our hearts to yours...
We wish you the very best with your hurricane recovery and rebuilding.
Love – your friends in Falls Church City, VA*

Dozens of additional boxes of donated hygiene products collected during a George Mason High School drive are also on board the trailers.

The Falls Church City Public Schools and the division's PTA organizations are members of a City of Falls Church Hurricane Relief Task Force. The group has made a year-long commitment to help hurricane victims in the Gulf Coast region.

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